(c) what fresh steps Government propose to take to stop the industrial effluents pouring into the river at places like Mokama and Kanpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Industrial effluents and sewage discharges into Ganga had been polluting the river over the years. However, pollution of the river has not resulted in man-made floods.

(b) Scheme for interception, diversion and treatment of domestic sewage have been taken up in 25 Class I towns along the banks of the Ganga, to reduce pollution. Also, action has been initiated to induce 68 grossly polluting industries to set up effluent treatment plants to reduce industrial pollution. So far 373 million litres per day (MLD) of sewage has been diverted from the river and with completion of Phase I of the Ganga Action Plan, a total of 867 MLD will be diverted. The quality of water has improved in places and where effluent treatment plants have been set by the industries.

(c) At the initiative of Ganga Project Authorities, 29 effluent treatment plants have been set up after 1985. Action has been initiated against defaulting units under the relevant provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. For the tannery units at Kanpur, a common conveyance and treatment system is under construction.

Steps to contain Malaria in the Country

84. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the parasite Plasmodium Falciparm which causes Malaria is developing resistance to traditional drugs for Malaria;

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to contain Malaria in the country;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce insecticide-impregnated nets in the country to contain Malaria; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D. K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes.

(b) The resistance in Plasmodium Falciparum is being monitored by the Directorate of National Malaria Eradication Programme through 13 Plasmodium Falciparum Monitoring Team in various parts of the country. The following specific measures are being taken in areas where drug resistance is detected:

use of alternative drugs in areas where high degree of resistance is detected, intensive spraying in resistance areas to prevent spread of resistance parasite, and follow up of repeat studies in the resistance areas to find out the extent of resistance left in the areas and to assess the trend of degree of resistance to initiate remedial measures.

(c) and (d) Field trials with insecticide-impregnated nets for personal protection are in progress to assess the degree of protection, cost effectiveness and operational feasibility.

85. [*Transferred to the 26th November*, 1991]